



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2001 Assembly Bill 726	Assembly Amendments 1, 3 and 5
Memo published: January 25, 2002 Contact: Robert J. Conlin, Senior Staff Attorney (266-2298)	

Assembly Bill 726

Generally, 2001 Assembly Bill 726 eliminates the special treatment of legislative campaign committees under current law and increases the amount that a political party may accept in contributions from all committees during any biennium from the current level of \$150,000 to \$500,000.

Assembly Amendment 1

Assembly Amendment 1 increases the amount a political party may receive from other political committees in any calendar year from \$6,000 under current law to \$18,000. In addition, the amendment increases the maximum amount that a political committee may contribute to a political party in any calendar year from \$6,000 under current law to \$18,000.

Assembly Amendment 1 was adopted by the Assembly on January 24, 2002 by voice vote.

Assembly Amendment 3

Assembly Amendment 3 creates an indexing mechanism to enable the Elections Board to periodically adjust the contribution limits relating to the amounts that political parties may receive from political committees. Under the amendment, beginning in 2006 and every four years thereafter, the board must multiply the amount of each contribution limitation applicable to political parties under s. 11.26 (8), Stats., by the percentage difference in the consumer price indices for the preceding year and for calendar year 2001. The board must adjust the amount of each limitation to substitute that result for the existing amount in order to reflect any difference, rounded to the nearest multiple of \$5. The board may promulgate the new limit as an emergency rule without providing evidence that an emergency exists.

Assembly Amendment 3 was adopted by the Assembly on January 24, 2002 by voice vote.

Assembly Amendment 5

As noted above, Assembly Bill 726 increases the amount that a political party may accept in contributions from all committees during any biennium from the current level of \$150,000 to \$500,000. Assembly Amendment 5 changes the increased limit from \$500,000 to \$450,000.

The Assembly adopted Assembly Amendment 5 on January 24, 2002 by voice vote. The Assembly passed Assembly Bill 726, as amended, on January 24, 2002 on a vote of Ayes, 95; Noes, 1.

RJC:rv;jal